

KALAMAZOO

A City of Industries



1926

Mich. statistics

Apples 9 million bus. +

Peaches 1 1/2 " "

Grapes 60,000 tons

Ginger nuts 800,000 million bus.

Potatoes 20 million bus.

6 1/2 million bu.

Barley 4 " "

**KALAMAZOO
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

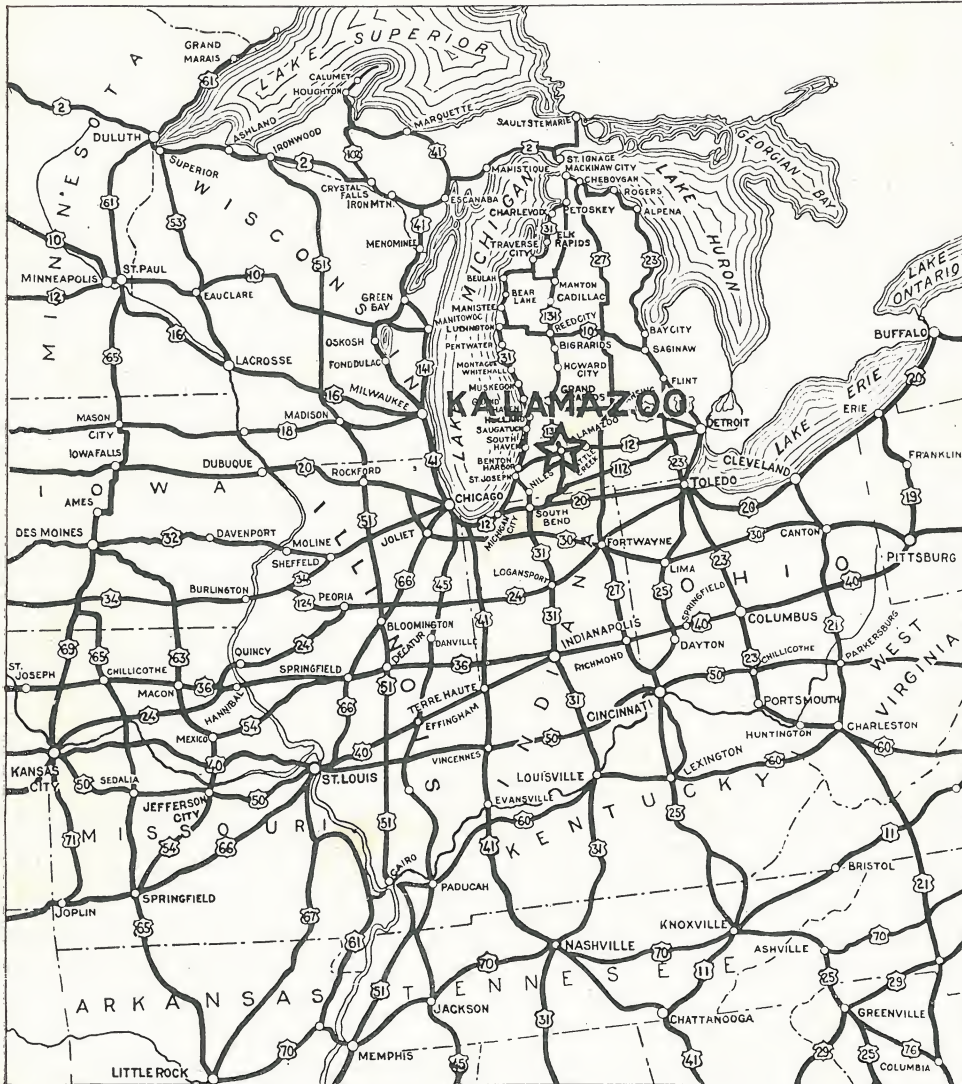
Corn 55 " "

*melons
mint etc
cetera*



KALAMAZOO

Wholesale Service and Educational Center of
Southwestern Michigan



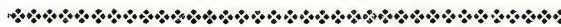
By Auto	Kalamazoo to	By Freight
440 Miles	Buffalo	Fourth Day
141 Miles	Chicago	Next Day
250 Miles	Cleveland	Third Day
300 Miles	Cincinnati	Second Day
139 Miles	Detroit	Next Day
108 Miles	Fort Wayne	Second Day
133 Miles	Toledo	Second Day



MAIN STREET—
LOOKING EAST



R. E. OLDS BUILD-
ING—KALAMA-
ZOO COLLEGE



WESTERN STATE
NORMAL
TEACHERS COL-
LEGE

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

When in 1829 that sturdy pioneer and wise prophet of the future. Titus Bronson, first looked down from the hilltops upon the fertile valley of the Kalamazoo river, he wisely foresaw that here was the right location for the building of a city.

Titus Bronson saw the timbered uplands and the rich bottom lands along the beautiful river, and sensed that here was the soil with that productivity which is of primary importance in the growth of a community.

He settled here. Others came. The settlement grew, became a village, then a city.

And now, within three hours' drive of Kalamazoo, is a population of over one million people, of whom two-thirds live in seventy-four cities and towns in Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana.

Over one-half the urban population of Michigan (excluding Greater Detroit) live in this zone.

This zone exceeds in population all American cities except four, nearly equals the population of five states combined, and exceeds in population sixteen states.

Within 150 miles of Kalamazoo, across level country, by train or motor, lie the buying markets of 8,000,000 people.

When it is considered that 1,800,000 parcel post packages go out from Kalamazoo yearly; that the average weight is about three pounds, and that this size package can be sent to any of 8,000,000 people at a cost of seven cents, with other rates in proportion, this economy of transportation becomes significant to many concerns shipping from this center.

Kalamazoo stands at the hub of an area with a density of population ten times the average throughout the United States.

While it is true that few cities of equal size offer such a diversity of industrial operations, the fertile lands surrounding Kalamazoo also afford diversity of agricultural operations—a fact which does much to stabilize markets and insure adequate food supplies at reasonable prices.

Kalamazoo county produces dairy and poultry products to the value of \$1,292,000 annually. Over a million dollars worth of celery is produced here yearly. The total crop value is given as \$7,822,529.

In a small zone including Kalamazoo, 6,800 carloads of grapes valued at over \$4,000,000 are produced.

Within a comparatively small number of miles, 90 per cent of the world's peppermint, and nearly all the world's spearmint is produced annually.

Kalamazoo's central position in Southwestern Michigan places it within the area served by a most efficient group of public utility corporations.

Electric power and light are furnished in limitless quantities by a Super-System utilizing both water-power and steam generating plants, and rates are as low as the largest cities in the country. The Michigan-Bell Telephone system furnishes more phones (in proportion to population) to Kalamazoo than any other city in Michigan, with one exception.

More gas meters installed than homes in the city, a never failing supply, and a low rate are the outstanding features of the gas service in Kalamazoo.



NEW GAZETTE BUILDING



KALAMAZOO NATIONAL
BANK & TRUST CO.



BURDICK HOTEL



MASONIC TEMPLE



FIRST NATIONAL BANK
AND TRUST CO.



HOME SAVINGS BANK



KALAMAZOO CITY
SAVINGS AND TRUST CO.



RICKMAN HOTEL

CIVICS

In 1918 Kalamazoo stepped out in front as a leader of cities of its class by adopting the Commission—City Manager form of Government.

Under this modern non-partisan form of city government, seven Commissioners are elected at-large every two years. A City Manager is selected by the Commission and is responsible for the proper conducting of the city's business to the Commission.

The various functions of city government are subdivided into departments—each under a Director.

Department of Law.

Department of Finance.

Department of Safety.

Department of Public Works.

Department of Public Utilities.

Department of Health and Welfare.

The first City Commission adopted the "pay-as-you-go" policy of conducting city business, discontinuing the issuing of bonds for public improvements. Under this policy, the bonded indebtedness of the city has been decreased from \$760,896.00 in 1919, to \$129,500 in 1927. We will soon be a City Government without a bonded debt.

The real and personal valuation of Kalamazoo for the year 1927 is fixed at \$75,320,841, and the low tax rate of 11 mills pays cost of city government.

Kalamazoo owns and operates its own Water Works, with a central station, three auxiliary pumping stations and three standpipes. The pumping capacity is about 18,740,000 gallons daily. The value of the system is \$847,295.92.

All water is taken from deep wells, and is pure and palatable. Very low water rates prevail.

Kalamazoo owns and operates its Lighting Plant, which furnishes light for all streets and public buildings, and values the plant and lines at \$220,000.

Kalamazoo owns twenty-three parks, with an acreage of 727, valued at over \$400,000.

There are 147 miles of streets—62 miles of pavement.

Over 109 miles of sanitary sewers and 53½ miles of storm sewers protect the community.

How well the city owned utilities serve the city is shown by the fact that with approximately 12,600 homes, 11,431 are customers of the Water Department, and there are 10,421 sanitary sewer connections.

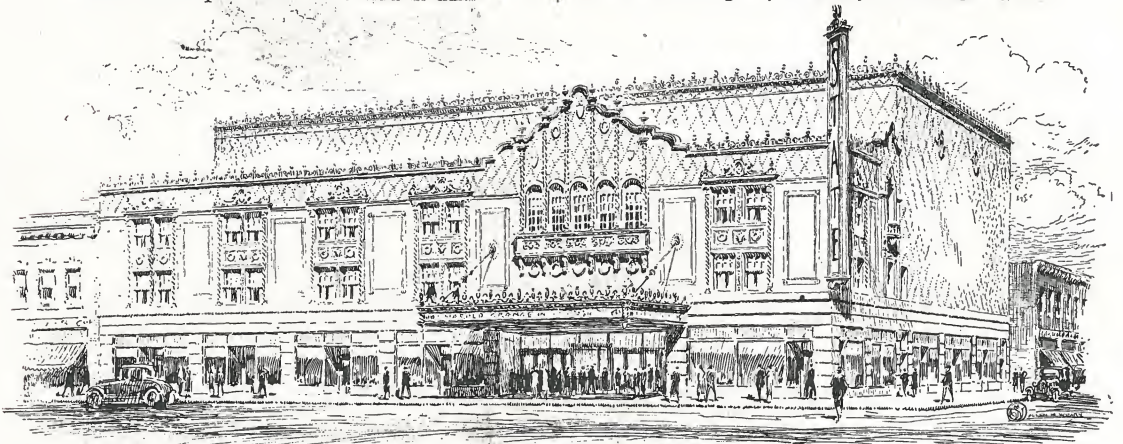
The Police Department is composed of 62 men and three women, housed in a separate police station valued at \$75,000.00.

Fire protection, an essential of good government, is given by an efficient Fire Department of 83 men operating on the platoon system, with complete motorized equipment housed in six advantageously located stations. The value of the buildings is placed at \$189,476.00.

The Health Department is under the direction of a full-time physician with a competent corps of bacteriologists, inspectors and nurses. Kalamazoo's death rate is exceptionally low, being 11.1.

The City owns and maintains a fine Tourist Camp Ground and a splendid, sporty Municipal Golf Course.

Kalamazoo is an economically, efficiently business-managed city from whatever angle you may investigate.



NEW STATE THEATRE



CLARAGE FAN
COMPANY

KALAMAZOO
LOOSE LEAF
BINDER
COMPANY



BRONSON PARK

LOVER'S LANE—
MILHAM PARK



TRANSPORTATION

Nothing is more important when considering the location of a factory, than the facility to secure expeditious handling of shipments of raw materials and manufactured products.

Kalamazoo is located on the Michigan Central Railroad and Grand Trunk Railroad east and west, and the Pennsylvania System and New York Central Railroad north and south. The Chicago, Kalamazoo & Saginaw and the South Haven Division of the Michigan Central are feeder lines. These roads radiate in ten directions from the city.

Two great industrial and population centers—Detroit and Chicago—are located in the Middle West. Kalamazoo is located exactly half-way between these cities, a position which is enviable because of the excellent transportation service maintained.

Shipments to Chicago may take any of three routes with a 24-hour service: Michigan Central, Grand Trunk, or Motor Truck lines.

Shipments to Detroit take Michigan Central, electric, or motor truck lines.

The great trunk lines, with terminal facilities at Newport News, New York, Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Montreal and Quebec, directly tap the principal storehouses of the United States.

The Michigan Central affords excellent service for both freight and passenger traffic to all principal points between New York and Chicago.

The main line of the Grand Trunk is within switching distance of Kalamazoo and is reached by a direct connection. Through its gateway and system steamship lines, freight may go direct to the British Empire and Northern Europe.

The Chicago, Kalamazoo & Saginaw has many miles of industrial sidings closely related to the river and in contact with ideal sites for factories and institutions requiring carload shipping and an abundance of water.

The South Haven Division of the Michigan Central forms a direct connecting link with Great Lakes traffic at South Haven, Mich.

Ninety-four passenger trains on the steam lines arrive at or leave Kalamazoo daily.

Kalamazoo is the terminal point for two first class interurban lines. The Michigan Railway Company operates local and fast passenger service as well as freight and express direct to Detroit in the east, and Grand Rapids in the north, including all intermediate points. Kalamazoo is the interurban center of Western Michigan.

Six paved highways out of Kalamazoo makes the successful operation of freight trucks assured. Fourteen truck lines are operated by a number of independent companies, and the Michigan Central Railroad operates a line of motor trucks for short hauls.

With U. S. 12, the through paved way from Detroit to Chicago, U. S. 131 the Dixie Highway north and south, and other radiating paved ways, Kalamazoo has excellent motor transport service.

Six motor bus routes carry passengers to and from Kalamazoo to all cities and towns within a radius of fifty miles, and to many of the lake resorts surrounding Kalamazoo.

From the standpoint of rapid and economical transportation, there is no city in the Middle West better located than Kalamazoo.



SHIPPING CELERY

INDUSTRY

An industrial development with several classes of industry reaching a size and importance to attract attention from the country or the world, with many others sufficiently large and sufficiently diversified to give employment to practically all its working people the year 'round. That is the ambition of cities—and that is the enviable condition in Kalamazoo.

Result: Should a depression hit one class of industry, the others may be in condition to absorb the surplus labor,

and the general prosperity of the city continues.

Paper leads the industries. Ten large paper companies produce 3,000,000 lbs. daily of coated papers, ledger, bond, book, writing, parchment, waxed, board and papeteries.

The distribution carries Kalamazoo-made papers to the Government for many purposes, to the magazine publishing houses, the job printing establishments, to the packing plants, to cross-roads creameries and bakeries everywhere.

Alphabetically, here are listed most of the industries of Kalamazoo:

Accessories, Auto	Cattle Guards	Inks	Printers' Rolls
Advertising Specialties	Chemicals	Insulation (Heat)	Pumps
Automobile Bodies	Clothing	Labels	Railway Supplies
Automobile Sheet Metal	Corsets	Loose Leaf Binders	Regalia
Awnings	Dandy Rolls and plates	Machine Nuts	Saw Mills
Bathroom Ware	Enameled Steel Products	Mandolins	Scrapers (Road)
Bedding	Engine Packing	Mill Work	Sleds
Blank Books	Engines	Monuments	Springs, Cushion
Blow Pipe Systems	Engraving	Oil Dispensers	Spring, Implement
Boats	Electrotypes	Oils (Essential)	Store Fronts, Cases
Boilers	Fans (Ventilation)	Pants	Stoves
Boxes	Fishing Tackle	Paper: Writing, Parchment, Papeteries, Waxed, Board	Stucco
Brooms	Floors (Composition)	Paraffine, refined	Tablets
Candy	Furniture, Lodge and Camp	Patterns	Tanks and Silos
Canning Machinery	Garage Machine Tools	Pharmaceuticals	Taxi Cabs
Cartons	Gas Heaters	Photo Shutters	Transmissions
Caskets	Gum	Plating	Trolley Wheels
Castings: Grey, Malleable, Steel and Brass	Ice Cream Pails	Plumbing Castings	Water Heaters
		Preservatives (Textile)	Wells
			Wheel Pullers
			Windows, Metal
			Wire Cloth

With this splendid array of manufacturing institutions, it follows that Kalamazoo is well supplied with expert

workmen of the steady, home-owning class—the greatest asset to an industry desiring to locate in any community.



NEW BORGESS HOSPITAL

INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT KALAMAZOO

Population, within limits	58,000
Population of Greater Kalamazoo	68,000
Area, square miles	81½
Altitude	775
Native Born Population	83.5
S. E. European Immigration	3.3
Assessed Valuation in City	\$75,320,841.00
Tax Rate—Total of property rates	\$33.75
Bonded Indebtedness	
City, General	\$129,500.00
Per Capita	\$2.20
School	\$2,499,000.00
Per Capita	\$45.00
Building Permits, 1926	1,394
Building Permits, value	\$1,983,590.00
Bank Assets	\$25,000,000.00
Bank Clearings, 1926	\$284,663,763.00
Post Office Receipts, 1926	\$558,572.00
Post Office Carriers	61
Newspaper Circulation, daily	28,000
City Telephones	14,550
Gas Meters	13,198
Streets, miles of	147
Paved Streets, miles of	62
Industrial Wages	\$18,000,000.00
Value of Products	\$72,000,000.00
Sanitary Sewers, miles of	109
Water Mains, miles of	120
Gas Mains, miles of	118.5
Number of Firemen	83
Number of Police Officers	62
Number of Parks	23
Park Area, acres	727
Per Capita area, sq ft	545
Public Library, volumes	80,000
Bituminous Coal Consumption, tons per annum	765,000
Passenger Trains, inbound (steam roads) daily	47
Passenger Trains, outbound (steam roads) daily	47
Best Office Rentals, annum, per sq ft	\$1.75
Industrial Rentals, annum, per sq ft	25c
Street Car Rate	6 1-4c
Electricity, average residence rate per KW	4.5
Gas Rate per M net	\$1.30
Water Rate, begins at per M net	\$1.25
Insurance Rate, average per \$100	55c
Birth Rate	23.3
Death Rate	11.1
Infant Death Rate	74.4
Assessed Valuation in Kalamazoo County	\$137,000,000.00
Hard Surface Roads in County, miles	75
Railroads in County, miles	115
Interurban Railroads in County, miles	25
Population, retail trade area	150,000
Home Ownership	54%



HAWTHORNE PAPER CO.



STANDARD PAPER CO.



KALAMAZOO VEGETABLE PARCHMENT CO.



BRYANT PAPER CO.

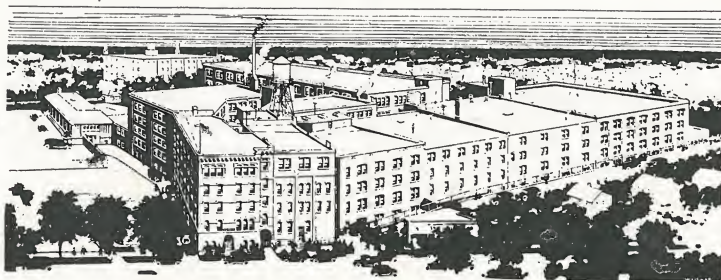
TRADING

Kalamazoo's enviable position, being the largest city in Southwestern Michigan and located in the center of a forty-mile trading circle, has resulted in establishing within its gates some of the best wholesale and retail stores in the state.

Many of the stores stand as living monuments to the foresight of their founders. Their diligence and years of tireless effort in upholding a high standard of business honor and integ-

Kalamazoo's retail stores are noted for their metropolitan appearance, large volume of stocks carried, up-to-date-ness of merchandisde shown, and a merchandising service usually available only in the largest cities.

Michigan's famed Fruit Belt, with its many varieties of fruit and broad expanse of vineyards, lies at Kalamazoo's door. Our perfect transportation facilities, rail, bus and paved roads, enable



UPJOHN COMPANY

ity, is being continued by the present generation of merchants.

Fifty-three wholesale establishments located here, supply an ever-widening territory, and with a large number of salesmen representing many lines of merchandise making Kalamazoo their headquarters, this community is in direct touch with the business of the country.

producers of the products of the farms, orchards and vegetable gardens to reach local markets economically and quickly.

Kalamazoo has long had a reputation as a city where people have the opportunity to select from large assortments of reliable merchandise, and secure the necessities of life, all at most reasonable prices.



HUMPHREY COMPANY

FINANCE

Kalamazoo has two National and two State Banks, and three substantial Building and Loan Associations.

The banks have a combined capital and surplus of approximately \$2,550,000; assets well in excess of \$25,000,000. Their facilities for handling commercial banking business of every nature are complete, and the fact that the youngest of them has more than thirty years of successful operation to its credit, is evidence of the soundness of their policies and the quality of their helpful service.

Kalamazoo's banks are growing steadily and substantially. A banking service for corporations isn't all we have to offer. Kalamazoo's banks and Building and Loan Associations supply a scope of saving service that must appeal

to the manufacturer and to his employees.

Our three Building and Loan Associations, one with a record of forty years service and over 4,000 members, have resources of several million dollars, and since their most important service is financing the building or purchase of homes, the city has no housing problem.

The savings accounts grow with every year, and the average size of such accounts makes prosperous growth the normal thing.

The manufacturer who views with favor our transportation facilities, our factory sites and labor supply, our proximity to supplies of raw materials and to markets, need have no misgivings as to what our banks can do for him, or as to the spirit in which they will volunteer their co-operation.



CENTRAL HIGH
SCHOOL



LINCOLN HIGH
SCHOOL



EDUCATIONAL

Educationally, Kalamazoo is, unique among cities, for it provides kindergarten, common school, academy, high school, normal and college training.

These advantages are offered by the Kalamazoo Public Schools, Parochial Schools, Nazareth Academy, Western State Normal and Kalamazoo College.

In addition to these there are business colleges, private art schools, schools of music, and two private schools for feeble minded.

Kalamazoo College is the oldest college in Michigan, founded in 1833. It occupies 25 acres, and has an average enrollment of 400 men and women. The college maintains a splendid library. Night school classes are open to the public during the winter terms.

Western State Normal, one of the finest and largest training schools in the country, offers two-year and limited certificate course; degrees in art and science, music and physical education. 3,500 students are enrolled in winter and summer terms.

About 2,000 pupils are enrolled in four Roman Catholic, two Holland Christian and one Seventh Day Adventist parochial schools. Nazareth Academy for girls and Barbour Hall for younger boys are part of the school life of the city.

A recent survey of the Public Schools of Kalamazoo reveals a system unsurpassed in the country. The work is divided into four departments: Early Elementary, Later Elementary, Junior High and Senior High. Fourteen modern school buildings complete the system.

Kalamazoo High School has been on the accredited list of the University of Michigan for fifty years. It occupies an

imposing building, completed in 1924, which includes a magnificent auditorium seating 2,700 people. The High School enrollment is about 1,500 students.

Particular attention is paid to the health of the school children. A capable corps of physical education teachers, a school physician, three visiting nurses, a school dentist and dental hygienist are employed.

Classes in vocational guidance for boys provide for half-time shop work and half-time related academic work.

A part-time Continuation School provides for eight hours per week for all boys and girls under 17 years of age who find it necessary to take up outside work before they have completed the tenth grade. For such, attendance at this school is compulsory.

Free Night School for the public, held for twenty weeks, offers work in commercial, industrial, mathematics, English, household arts and citizenship. The night classes are attended annually by a large percentage of the relatively few foreign born residents, by young people who have gone into commercial life, and by older men and women holding responsible positions in Kalamazoo's industries.

The Kalamazoo Public Library cooperates with the Public Schools in addition to its important contribution to the business and home life of the community at large. The central library, with its numerous branches, catalogues approximately 80,000 volumes, as well as a vast amount of current literature.

The educational advantages of the city are indeed very vital among the reasons why Kalamazoo is a splendid city in which to live.



ROOSEVELT SCHOOL



COLUMBIA HOTEL



PARK-AMERICAN HOTEL



MARLBOROUGH APARTMENTS

FRATERNAL AND SOCIAL

In a fraternal way, Kalamazoo offers all that can be desired in community achievement, or secret society circles that tend to accomplish an universal brotherhood.

Every section of the city and many of the outlying suburbs, have their community societies that bring the residents into closer relationship, bringing about a mutual understanding and endeavor to secure the things that are most beneficial to the greatest number.

Club life in Kalamazoo embraces practically every conceivable social and industrial feature of the community, and the aims and accomplishments are a credit to the city as a whole. The leading clubs are the Kiwanis, Rotary, Exchange, Lions, the Advertising Club, Employment Managers, Credit Managers and Accountants. The Park Club,

Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion. Several of these organizations are housed in their own club houses, where frequent gatherings help to make up the social life of an up-to-date city. Thousands of Kalamazoo's population are daily or frequent patrons of fraternal society club homes.

The Masonic Temple is the meeting place of Anchor, Kalamazoo and Fidelity Masonic Lodges, Kalamazoo Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, Kalamazoo Council R. & S. M., Peninsular Commandry Knights Templar, Corinthian Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, White Shrine of Jerusalem, and the Order of DeMolay.

The Benevolent Protective Order of Elks have a fine club house which is soon to be enlarged. The Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Loyal Order of



YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

down town, and three Country Clubs in the suburbs, cater to a distinct element of the population.

Among the women's clubs are the Ladies' Library Association, Twentieth Century, Altrusa, and the Business & Professional Women's Club, each of which are cogs in the wheel of progress making Kalamazoo a better city in which to live and do business.

There are other organizations which link into the social life of the city in a varied field. Some of these are the Daughters of the American Revolution, United Commercial Travelers, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters of America, Holland American Aid Society, Holland Mutual Aid Society, Polish American Club, Workingmen's Benevolent Society, Civic Improvement League, Grand Army of the Republic, Women's Relief Corps, Spanish-American War

Moose own their own buildings which have club features and large assembly rooms.

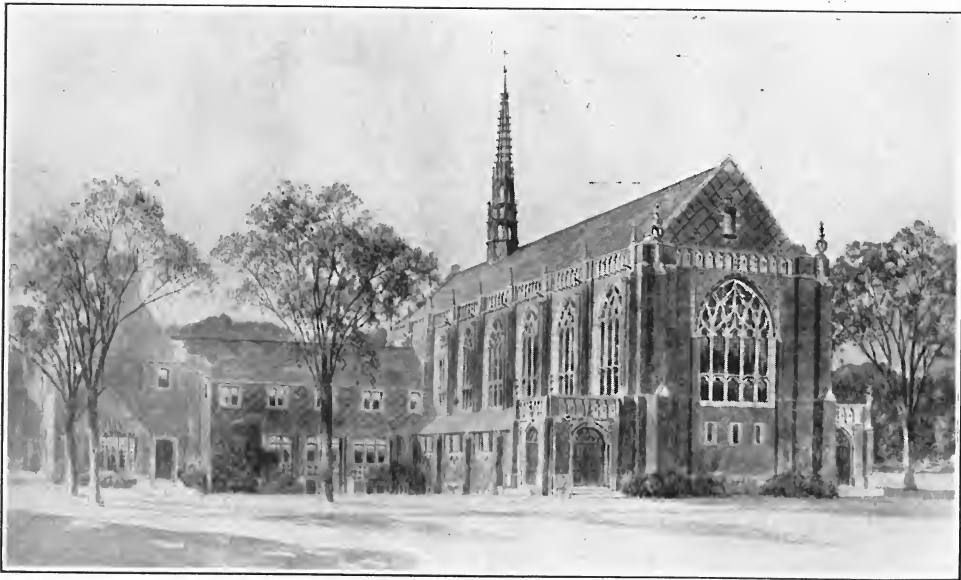
The Maccabees are very much alive with tents and hives, while the Modern Woodmen of America, Knights and Ladies of Security, Ben Hur, Royal Neighbors, Royal Arcanum and other fraternal insurance societies are active in supervising and securing protection for their membership.

Visitors from other cities, and those coming to Kalamazoo to reside will find a hearty welcome extended by their brother and sister members of the various lodges, societies and clubs to which they may belong.

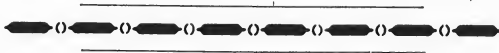
These lodges, societies and clubs have a membership of several thousand which includes many men and women who are prominent in the business and social life of the city.



ST. LUKE'S CHURCH (EPISCOPAL)



NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

CHURCHES

The religious life of Kalamazoo may be said to operate through, and radiate from, her 57 churches and religious organizations of some 25 denominations and faiths. The ministers and pastors of these various groups are recognized as the sky pilots of civil and religious affairs of the city—the dependable advance guard in the fight for moral and religious progress.

Religion may be qualified as “a system of faith and worship”—a manner of recognition of an over-ruling power or the Supreme Being. Man is naturally religious and Kalamazoo folks are no exception.

Kalamazoo's churches and religious organizations are active centers for the development of those moral and religious forces which enter so largely into the highest type of civilization. Such centers are quite generally recognized

as absolutely essential to the best conditions of society. Religious forces of church and school in Kalamazoo foster a high degree of intellectual and moral worth; and the broad point of view of leading divines has had the happy effect of cementing cordial relationships despite creedal differences.

Commercially the real estate man appreciates the value of religion and the consequent religious institutions in any community. Church buildings are usually of outstanding architecture, are an asset, and neighboring property is more desirable.

Church buildings of Kalamazoo generally, are of highly artistic type, and add much to the architectural beauty of the city. Many have interior decorations that vie with the famous cathedrals of the Old World.

ALTRUISTIC

Kalamazoo's altruistic spirit is exemplified in many organizations and institutions which are ever ready to help those in distress, care for the unfortunate, or elevate its citizenship.

The Community Fund, Inc., financed by a community budget, consists of the Civic Improvement League which looks after the city's poor, conducts infant welfare, Cribside Society, St Agnes tuberculosis, tonsil and adenoidal clinics and promotes general community welfare, Cribside Society, St Agnes Foundling Home, Whatsoever Free Bed Association, Child's Welfare League, Children's Aid Society, Douglas Community House for Negroes, Y. W. C. A., Y. M. C. A., Salvation Army, Red Cross, etc.

The Young Men's Christian Association and Young Women's Christian Association, both housed in splendid buildings, provide dormitories, gymnasiums, swimming pools, etc., and take an

active interest in the care and upbuilding of the young men and women of the city.

Three homes for the aged are operated under denominational control. Six hospitals of the major class care for the sick and injured. One hospital is under state control, one municipal, three denominational and two private. All are excellently equipped and offer admirable service at moderate rates. Both Old and New Borgess and Bronson hospitals are liberal in their care of charity patients.

Pretty Lake Vacation Camp provides outings for the children of the less fortunate during the summer months.

A boys' Farm cares for indigent boys and supervises their education. An Orphans' Home cares for girls.

Several patrols of Boy and Girl Scouts are active in scout work and are provided with summer camps.

STATE HOSPITAL



BRONSON METHODIST HOSPITAL



GULL LAKE

RECREATION

Whatever your recreation hobby may be Kalamazoo presents the opportunity to indulge in it.

Fishing, boating, bathing in summer; duck hunting, ice-boating, skating in winter, on the shores of lakes in the vicinity.

For years Kalamazoo has been the only city in Michigan having a Grand Circuit Race Meet. The best horses in the country come here annually.

Three fine theatres furnish vaudeville and the best in road shows and pictures. There are also two exclusive



KALAMAZOO
COUNTRY CLUB—
WHITE'S LAKE

Thousands of cottages and many resort hotels dot the shores of the lakes.

Many athletic fields and six playgrounds under the direction of the City Recreational Department, provide outdoor sports for adult and child.

Football, baseball, track and basketball teams of the colleges furnish high class athletic contests.

picture houses. Continuous shows provide entertainment at all times.

The Redpath Chautauqua is an annual event under the auspices of the Western State Normal.

The Auditorium of the Central High and Lincoln High Schools, and the Armory, are occupied during the winter season by splendid courses of entertainment that bring world-famous artists.

MILHAM PARK



Twelve baseball diamonds are daily occupied in season by Business, Factory and Church leagues.

Two Country Club golf courses and the Municipal Golf Course cater to golf enthusiasts.

The music lover finds pleasure in Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra concerts, recitals by Metropolitan artists and local musicians of note. Kalamazoo is noted for its excellent music. Municipal band concerts are held throughout the summer season in the parks.



PUBLIC
LIBRARY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Kalamazoo Chamber of Commerce exists "to promote the civic, economic and social welfare of Kalamazoo and vicinity." It is a standard organization affiliated with the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

Permanent departments working within their scope are, the Industrial, Traffic, Convention, Wholesale and Retail Bureaus. Various committees with special objectives are set at work as conditions warrant.

The Industrial Bureau has a field secretary of experience in industrial affairs. He will assist in securing property by lease or sale for prospective firms. He will make compilations of information, markets, etc., and will assist in suggesting a method of procedure for the location of a firm or factory in Kalamazoo.

The Convention Bureau is on the alert to invite conventions and aid in their accommodation. The Bureau is composed of many representative business firms.

The Traffic Bureau, with a full time man in charge, is at the service of Kalamazoo shippers and receivers of freight. The Bureau protects the community by rectifying unfair rates, thereby opening new markets and giving manufacturers a fair field against competitors. Rates and routes are designated. Better means of transportation are developed. The Bureau saves its clients thousands of dollars by recovery on rates charged in error.

The Retail Bureau and the Wholesale Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce counts among its members all substantial business firms of the city, representing every line of wholesale and retail business.

The Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary organization supported by the money and work of the leading men and firms of the city. These men understand that the price of progress is group thinking and acting—that there is competition between cities just as there is between commercial firms. Their civic spirit, let us call it plus citizenship, has resulted in a city, not one of virtue, but of many virtues. Kalamazoo as a city has its share of natural advantages—location, lakes and rivers, good water, beautifully wooded valleys and hills. Kalamazoo citizens have added their contribution of man-made advantages which have been recited in this booklet.

Indicative of the ambition for progress, the Chamber of Commerce in the last two years has secured or taken part in securing the following advantages—a River Front Park of ninety acres, Community Chest, Municipal Golf Course, house re-numbering, many important conventions, freight rate adjustments, etc.

Kalamazoo lays claim to a well-balanced and harmonious development of the characteristics of a good city—work and business, education and government, living conditions, recreation and health.

Kalamazoo could easily name several features regarding which it is "First in the United States." Such features mean little to the family who moves to a city to live and work. Those who are considering Kalamazoo can be sure that it has a full quota of advantages for every member of the family.

Should Kalamazoo be checked, in comparison with cities of its class, by a standard that would measure all the essentials necessary for a satisfactory city in which to live and work, it would be found well up near the top.

AN INVITATION

To those seeking suitable locations for factories; to those desiring more specific information regarding any subject covered by this booklet, the Chamber of Commerce invites correspond-

ence. Prompt attention will be given to all inquiries. Address

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
316 Commerce Bldg.,
Kalamazoo, Mich.